Admission of SC/ST students in Indian Institute of Packaging, Mumbai

793. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee recommended for ensuring admission of students from SC/ST community to the fullest extent of the quota of seats reserved for this community in all educational/academic institutions in 1993;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the total year-wise number of seats offered in different faculties/ disciplines in the Indian Institute of Packaging, Mumbai in all the courses during the last five years;

(d) the number of students from SC/ST community among them and percentage as compared to the total seats during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Industrial Development Centres in Rajasthan

794. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) The number of industrial development centres set up in Rajasthan during each of the last three years;

(b) the funds invested in these centres;

(c) whether roads and tanks have been constructed by them; and

(d) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New Land Route for Indian Export

795. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is currently under discussion between India, Iran and Russia for a new land route for Indian exports to Iran, Russia and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries;

(b) whether any decision has been taken;

(c) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(d) what will be its implication on Indian exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The Government of Russian Federation have proposed an international Agreement on transit along the "North- South' Corridor to facilitate transportation via Iran and the Caspian Sea to the Russian Federation. The draft agreement in this connection was discussed in a meeting held in Moscow on 4-5 July, 2000 where representatives of the Russian Federation, Iran, Oman and India were present. Further discussions between the concerned countries will be necessary before a final decision can be taken.

(d) The proposed agreement is likely to boost Indian exports to Russia by reducing the transportation cost and time.

Industrial Package for J and K

796. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for industrial package for J and K;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken for the release of the package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) A proposal from Government of J and K has been received in this Ministry requesting for a package similar to the North East Industrial Policy for the State of J and K.

(c) The proposal of the State Government will be kept in view as and when any package specifically for the State is prepared.

Investment Made by NRIs in Gujarat

797. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the investment made in Gujarat by NRIs during 1998, 1999 and 2000 till date;

(b) the incentives given for investment during the above period; and

(c) the concessions given to attract more and more investments?